The Professional Podcast Project

Essential Questions: What is the difference between a radio show and a podcast? How has technology made the day-to-day operations of radio programs easier?

Objective: For this project you will follow a research based outline to complete the creation of your own home audio podcast show with website. This project will require you to plan a show, produce and create a show, research the tools needed for a radio show, report those results in a Word document, display the ability work a budget to get the show off the ground in both an Excel document and circle graph, research and present current events, discuss topics from a point counterpoint perspective that shows an understanding in civil discourse, research and report the most interesting news in pop culture or sports, and finally create a website to hold all of this knowledge!

The first thing you will do is create a word document report telling me about such things as how long has radio been around, how does a radio station work, what is a disc jockey, where do they get all their music, where do they get their [funding](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/funding), what is an audio podcast, how is an audio podcast different from a radio program and how are they the same. This will be turned in both as a word document and as a link from your front webpage.

Now that you know a little something about the business you are getting in for this project you need to get it off the ground! You have been given $5,000 in private funding from a local investor that thinks you have the talent and ability to turn your show into something special. So now you will need to build an at home studio to create your at home audio podcast. This is similar to the Excel project you did before, but with a more real-world connection. Use the [website](http://www.buildarecordingstudio.com/) below to create a list of all the products you will need for your recording studio. Follow this document and pull out the products you choose or use these as a starting point for the supplies you will use (Don’t forget there are 2 of you in the studio.). You will again need to create a Word document showing the list of supplies you will need to start up (we are assuming you DON’T have a computer), and again you need to include the name, a picture, a link, a price and a brief description of what the product will do in your studio. You will then create an Excel spreadsheet listing the items, the cost of each item, the total amount spent, a running subtraction from the original $5,000, and a circle graph showing how much of your total budget each item represents.

<http://www.buildarecordingstudio.com/>

Now that you are set to get going in the studio you just have to plan out the topics, format, and “fun stuff” you are going to discuss! This is the fun part of the assignment because it is all about WHATEVER you want to talk about that is appropriate and that you can defend with facts that you have researched and can use and cite in your broadcast. For this part of the assignment, the main thing to think is PLAN! PLAN! PLAN! It is a lot harder than you probably think it is to talk without a script for 5-10 minutes. Look at the document on this link to get a more detailed idea of the format of your podcast. You will need to do research on the musical choices you have made, your background music, your current event, your opinion piece, your entertainment/sports report and of course get your biography straight for your introduction to your listeners!

After you have your plan in place, it’s time to get in the studio and put this whole thing together! You will need to use two microphones from the library and use Mr. Miller’s office as your studio. The software you will use to record your podcast will be Garage Band. In your final podcast you will need to edit together all your segments into a clear, obvious display of organization piece that sounds as professional as possible. Editing should be an intensive process that pushes you to give your listeners the absolute best broadcast you are capable of delivering. If you have ever been to a musical concert you know that it doesn’t sound like it does on the radio or on your iPod. That is because the live show is a one time performance with no do-overs, the single song you hear on your iPod may have taken as long as a month to get it sounding “just right”. This project is intended for you to treat this final podcast you display to your teacher with the same intensity, reflection and effort.

Finally, you will need a place for your listeners to come together and post questions, discuss with you or with each other the topics you’ve discussed, have access to your information about your current event, your opinion piece, your entertainment/sports stories and of course they will need to see a page about each of you! You will you the software, iWeb, to create your podcast’s web page for all your listeners to come and enjoy. Use the example website, explanation page, and rubric to help guide you to the finish.

Before you are done you will need to complete the self-reflection sheet in the folder.

Next blog should be about the ridding of books?